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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Applicant(s): Nathanson et al. : Group Art Unit: 3732

Serial No.: 10/021,980 : Examiner: Candice C. Melson

Filed: December 14, 2001 : Attorney Docket No.: 67883.010100

For: INTERNAL OSTEOTOMY :  
FIXATION DEVICE :

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**AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL ACTION UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116 IN RESPONSE TO  
JUNE 16, 2004 OFFICE ACTION**

Commissioner for Patents  
Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS:**

This Amendment is filed in reply to the Office Action issued by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on June 16, 2004 in connection with the above-identified patent application. The June 16, 2004 Office Action provided a period of 3 months in which to file a response, i.e., by September 16, 2004. Accordingly, this Amendment is being timely filed.

*Enter*  
*9/22/04*